

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 SEPTEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Beirut Security Situation, Camp Riot -- In view of U.S. unwillingness to deploy American multinational forces in Beirut until the IDF withdraws from all of its positions, Israel has decided to withdraw completely from the Beirut airport area, IDF radio announced. Furthermore, Israel will only be able to use the airport in emergencies and in coordination with Lebanese officials. In meeting Lebanese demands to leave the airport, Israeli official sources cited by the radio explained that it was decided to demonstrate flexibility with the Lebanese in the hope of normalizing relations. The Lebanese public works minister told Lebanese television that the airport will reopen to traffic on 30 September, Beirut radio affirmed. According to Voice of Lebanon radio reports, the first group of Israeli soldiers began leaving the airport area on 29 September while earlier the IDF withdrew from its positions around Beirut port and other areas as the French and Italian forces were deployed. Meanwhile, the radio said the U.S. contingent will arrive in Beirut on 29 September.

In another development, residents of the Burj al-Barajinah refugee camp asserted that the Lebanese Army sealed off the camp and arrested hundreds of Palestinian men, AFP reported; the Voice of Lebanon reported only that the camp was stormed by the Lebanese Army in search of arms and ammunition.

The IDF spokesman announced in a statement carried by ITIM that Israeli guards opened fire on and wounded eight Palestinian detainees in the Ansar prison camp in southern Lebanon after a riot broke out.

Syria's Talas on Invasion -- Addressing soldiers of the Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) in Lebanon, Syrian Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas asserted that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon intended to destroy the PLO, remove Syrian forces and occupy all of Lebanon, Damascus television reported. Talas claimed that Syrian forces succeeded in preventing these Israeli objectives and in fact contained the Israeli invasion. He criticized the weak Arab response to the invasion and attacked U.S. policy for its lack of direction. Talas asserted that the ADF is in Lebanon to help that country regain its sovereignty.

Al-Jumayyil's Upcoming Travels -- Sources close to Lebanese President al-Jumayyil revealed that he will visit some Arab states to discuss relations and the presence of Syrian forces in Lebanon on a tour which will also include visits to the United States, Paris and the Vatican, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Israel

Massacre Inquiry -- The Cabinet decided on 28 September to establish an inquiry commission in accordance with the 1969 Inquiry Commissions Act which will investigate "all the facts and factors relating to the atrocity perpetrated by units of the Lebanese Forces against the civilian population in Shatila and Sabra camps," the Cabinet secretary announced in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio. The Cabinet decided on this form of inquiry to put an end to the "baseless libels" alleging that the government has something to hide or is seeking to evade a full investigation, he said. The inquiry commission was given the widest possible terms of reference and will be able to decide who it wants as witnesses and what documents to ask for, he said in related remarks broadcast by the radio. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi likewise said in a statement broadcast by the radio that the Cabinet set no limits in any sphere, so that "everything is open to examination, the political echelon and the other echelon." To avoid further polarization among Israelis and foster national unity, the government also decided to cancel a Likud demonstration scheduled for 2 October, the radio noted.

Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said in interviews with IDF radio and Jerusalem television that pressure from Israeli public opinion had forced the government to accede to the demand for an inquiry commission and that the Alignment still demands the resignation of Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. Meanwhile, DAVAR affirmed that authoritative sources in Jerusalem consider Sharon's resignation "inevitable." During the Cabinet meeting several ministers criticized recent statements by the defense minister, Jerusalem radio said.

While Energy Minister Yitzhaq Berman announced he will not renege on his decision to resign, the commander of the IDF Staff College withdrew his request for leave and said he will continue to serve in his post, according to Jerusalem and IDF radio reports.

West Bank -- A curfew was imposed in Nabulus following riots in the old city, Jerusalem radio reported. In another incident, unidentified people inflicted heavy damage on a police station near Jerusalem. Meanwhile, 10,000 people attended the funeral of an Arab girl from Daburiyah killed during a demonstration on 27 September, the radio also noted.

PLO

In announcing the death of Fatah Central Committee member Brig Gen Sa'd Sayil, alias Abu al-Walid, as a result of an ambush, the Fatah Central Committee pledged revenge against his alleged Israeli killers and their agents, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio reported. KUNA said PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Damascus to attend Sayil's funeral and to hold PLO meetings to discuss the assassination.

Iran

Iranian security forces opened up a pass near Mahabad which was controlled by "American mercenaries," killing 30 of them and capturing a large number of arms, Tehran radio reported.

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THATCHER MEETS GANDHI ON BRIEF STOPOVER IN DELHI

BK290304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Sep 82

[Text] British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher arrived in New Delhi early this morning from Hong Kong for a brief stopover. She is now having a breakfast meeting with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi. The two leaders are expected to discuss bilateral relations and exchange views on the international situation.

Mrs Thatcher was received at the airport by Minister of State for Tourism Khurshid Alam Khan, Rajiv Gandhi and Foreign Secretary Rasgotra. The British prime minister will later leave for Bahrain.

Departs for Bahrain

BK290802 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 29 Sep 82

[Excerpt] British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, after a brief stopover, left New Delhi for Bahrain this morning. She was seen off at the airport by Mrs Gandhi, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Foreign Secretary Rasgotra.

Earlier, Mrs Thatcher had a working breakfast with Mrs Gandhi when they had talks on some bilateral trade matters and world affairs. Pranab Mukherjee and British High Commissioner to India Robert Wade-Gery were present. Mrs Thatcher gave an account of her visit to Japan, China and Hong Kong and heard from Mrs Gandhi her impressions of her recent visits to the United States and the Soviet Union.

Replying to a question on the future of Hong Kong and her discussions with Chinese leaders, Mrs Thatcher said we have a common aim to maintain the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong.

EXPRESS VIEWS TECHNOLOGY PROTOCOL WITH USSR

BK281644 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 22 Sep 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Welcome Offers"]

[Text] The Indo-Soviet protocol on technological cooperation, signed on the eve of Mrs Gandhi's visit to Moscow, promises to reinforce relations between the two countries. The Soviet Union has made a major contribution in the past to the development of India's core industries by way of know-how, equipment and credit. The major emphasis in the latest protocol is on strengthening the steel sector, which is in urgent need of expansion and modernisation in the face of internal resources and technology limitations. The proposed steel plant at Daitari in Orissa has been in the doldrums since a turn-key agreement for it with a British firm fell through. Though belatedly approached, the Soviet Union has expressed willingness to help save the project. It is also favourably inclined to provide technology and credit for the second stage of the Vishakhapatnam steel plant, expansion of the Bhilai and Bokaro plants, and modernisation of the outdated Burnpur unit which has been incurring heavy losses.

Other significant schemes for which modalities of collaboration are to be worked out include a proposed alumina plant in Andhra Pradesh, use of sophisticated Soviet technology for sinking inclined shafts in coal mines, directional blasting, inland oil exploration, enlarging troposphere communication links, and laying 400 kv transmission lines. Attention has also been given to the problem of idle capacity and modernisation of major manufacturing enterprises set up with past Soviet assistance. The decision to make intensive use of plants at Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar, manufacturing heavy machines, mining equipment and power-generation systems respectively, has come none too soon.

Mrs Gandhi had, during her recent visit to the U.S. invited cooperation from governmental and private sector research establishments as well as from Indian scientists settled there in genetic engineering, oil exploration, electronics and computer technology. Details remain to be worked out. While cooperation in these and other frontier areas is of undoubted importance, it is necessary to ensure capacity and systems to absorb and update these newer technologies.

STATESMAN: REJECT SOVIET OFFER OF NUCLEAR AID

BK281152 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 26 Sep 82 p 8

[Editorial: "An Offer To Be Declined"]

[Text] Tarapur should have led India to take a generally sceptical view of all proposals for nuclear assistance from abroad. But the recent excitement and disappointment seem only to have aroused greater interest. Even Mrs Gandhi thought fit to confirm at a press conference in Moscow that the Russians had offered to build a 1,000 mw nuclear power plant in this country. Although she did not go to the extent of hailing this as a grand gesture of help, she did not indicate any reservations either. It might be diplomatically proper to go through the motions of due consideration, but there should be no doubt in New Delhi about the inadvisability of pursuing the proposal seriously. Any further idea of nuclear development with external assistance needs to be firmly discouraged; there would be no difference, if the source is the Soviet Union.

In fact, the Soviet offer may be especially unsuitable on technical grounds. India has had some experience of nuclear collaboration with the British, the Canadians and the Americans; whatever the disappointments in later stages of Canadian and American assistance there is at least some technical understanding on both sides. With the Russians, the Indian nuclear technologists would be on almost entirely new ground. The nature of the proposed plant, too, would be incompatible with the direction of the Indian nuclear power programme. It would again consist of enriched uranium reactors, while the immediate Indian plan is to rely on natural uranium. More important, it would be difficult to integrate a 1,000 mw plant with the existing transmission and distribution system in this country, and the difficulty would be much greater with a nuclear plant.

A still more important consideration is that a Soviet-built nuclear plant would be subject to the kind of safeguards which New Delhi has been so resolutely, and correctly, opposing. The Russians may not insist on full-scope safeguards, but not only would the plant itself be placed under stringent safeguards but these would almost certainly apply to its by-products as well. Indo-Soviet friendship has not made safeguards, including a pursuit clause, redundant for the heavy water the Russians have supplied for natural uranium reactors. There is no reason to believe that Mrs Gandhi's mission has brought about any change in Moscow's policy in this regard. The Soviet offer can only be a further distraction in India's already enfeebled endeavour for nuclear self-reliance and self-sufficiency. This is not an area in which technology, equipment or materials can be imported without compromising basic national aims. A great deal of confusion would be avoided if Moscow is politely told of India's inability to accept the offer before any further discussions take place.

PRESIDENT TO LEAVE FOR HOUSTON 30 SEPTEMBER

BK250641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] President Zail Singh will leave for the United States on the 30th of this month. He is going there for a medical checkup. A panel of medical experts who recently examined the president advised that he required specialized investigation to ascertain the condition of his coronary arteries. They were of the view that the most appropriate center for treatment will be the Texas Heart Institute of Houston in the United States.

RAFSANJANI CRITICIZES MUSLIM HEADS OF STATE

LD271200 Tehran IRNA in English 0923 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 26, IRNA -- Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani today upbraided the heads of state of Muslim countries for remaining indifferently silent vis-a-vis the recent Zionist massacre of hundreds of Palestinians in Palestinian refugee camps.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani who was talking to a group of members of Muslim students association from various parts of the country here today also criticized the Saudi Government for "its brutal [words indistinct] with the Iranian pilgrims".

He reminded that Imam Khomeyni's representative Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini and pilgrimming Majlis deputies had been arrested and manhandled while they were shouting slogans "against the United States and Israel for its massacre of Palestinians."

He observed that while the Islamic Republic of Iran is at war with the Iraqi Government, it is providing lodging and every kind of aid to the thousands of deported and dissident Iraqis in Iran in keeping with the dictates of Islam.

The hojjat ol-Eslam urged the visiting students to prepare themselves for treading a "healthy political, doctrinal, and social" movement in order to ensure a society free from tyranny, injustice and discrimination.

KHAMENE'I CALLS FOR MEETING OF ISLAMIC LEADERS

GF281822 Tehran IRNA in English 1557 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 28, IRNA -- President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i today called for a meeting of the leaders of the Islamic countries to discuss the important issues confronting Islam and Muslims.

Addressing a gathering of ambassadors and charges d'affaires from Islamic countries, the president stressed that the Islamic countries should set aside their political differences in order to combine efforts for ensuring the rights of the Muslims, despite their geographical and historic differences.

"At a time when the Islamic world lacks a unified and versatile position towards these aggressions and attacks (against the Muslims in Afghanistan and Lebanon) there is no hope of being able to defend our innocent brothers in Afghanistan, Palestine and Lebanon, and if we can defend them, history will never forgive us, that as Islamic countries we are engaged in our own issues, and permit the Muslims to be the object of aggression by the aggressor powers," he said. [sentence as received]

In the gathering, which was held on the occasion of the Islamic festival of 'Id al-Qorban, the president added that (?events in Lebanon overshadowed the) happiness of Muslims on this day.

"We emphasise once again that today is the day that the Islamic nations, and in the forefront the Islamic governments, should act upon their historic responsibility against the occupiers and usurpers (of Islamic territories in Palestine and Afghanistan) so that at least history would speak well of them," Khamene'i further said.

Then the president called for an all out struggle against the Zionists and stressed that oil as well as reserves of Muslim countries in American banks along with propaganda, should be used as a weapon against the Zionists while at the same time the Muslim masses should be mobilised against the primary agents of these aggressions.

"It is appropriate that we should clarify the main enemy, meaning the defenders of Israel, the great Satan, America, to the Islamic peoples, for this reason that without the support of this tyrannical superpower, the Zionists would never disregard close to one billion Muslims and launch an aggression against an Arab country, which is a part of the Islamic nation, in front of their eyes," Khamene'i said.

KHAMENE'I URGES CONFRONTATION WITH 'OPPRESSORS'

LD281330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Speech by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at Tehran University on 28 September — recorded]

[Excerpts] If we review and study the great events of the past year, to find which is the most important event for Muslims since the last festival, we come across two important and fundamental events. One is the continuation of the aggressive war against the Government of the Islamic Republic and the nation of Iran, which has always been backed by all-round assistance and support from the governments subservient to the United States in the region. The other is the sad, tragic and unprecedented mass slaughter of Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims in Beirut and the occupation of part of the great Islamic homeland by the usurpers of Palestine.

These two issues, although separate, trace back to one cause and one root, the domineering policies of the oppressive America, the great Satan, in the region and the cooperation and help of governments and powers, great or small, alongside America in order to protect its interests.

If we limit the issue to Zionism and the usurpers of Palestine, no doubt we would confine ourselves to [word indistinct]. It is true that the hand of the usurping Zionists is the corrupt and evil hand that creates most tragedies. But this hand is connected to a brain and a heart which our nation is struggling and fighting against and today that protector and supporter no longer makes any effort to keep its support hidden.

When Khorramshahr was retaken by the combatants of the Islamic Republic, an American official clearly stated -- and everyone heard him and understood -- that they were going to have a more active role in the Middle East in the near future. This more active role was the attack by their chained dog, Zionism, and the occupying regime of Palestine on Lebanon and the occupation of part of the great Islamic homeland.

We look at these two issues in the same light and believe that the same remedy would cure both situations. However, so far as part of this issue is concerned -- namely the attack on Iran by the puppet regime of Iraq -- we have acted according to this remedy and we have succeeded. Our recommendation is that the same remedy should be used for the other half, the other part of the problem. If today the world is not prepared to consider and act according to this remedy approved by Islam and the spirit of courage, freedom seeking and valiance, surely the future for Arabs and the Muslims and also the future of the occupiers and usurpers would continue as it has up to now, as it has for 35 years for Arab and Islamic countries.

The remedy we used was a very simple one. It was resorting to the strength of men and creating a core of human activities, a center of gathering for wills and motives by using the name and memory of God. Our nation went to war empty handed against well-equipped, well-armed and prepared forces that were not only prepared in advance but continued receiving assistance from governments subservient to America and those following counterrevolutionary policies. They are still receiving assistance, even now, despite the dark future awaiting the Baghdad regime. Some governments in the Persian Gulf cannot bring themselves to stop their aid to the regime, which they themselves do not approve of, in all sincerity, because it was bold enough to confront the forces of Islam. They continue their help even now.

Of course, I should add we see this aid, understand it and take it into account. We will never forget the behavior of the governments which have recently adopted friendly or unfriendly stances. The memory of our nation is strong and good. The power of our nation to confront these treacherous hands is everlasting and eternal. Therefore [shouts of "God is great," "Khomeyni is the leader," "Death to America," "Death to the USSR," "Death to the hypocrites"] we confront such forces. The East and the West, those claiming to be enemies of America and the governments subservient to America, are united in helping the regime whose only characteristic and advantage, from their point of view, is that it has waged war against the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution.

We have achieved one victory after the other and today we are on the verge of the final victory, which will be gained by the same means as all our previous victories. Today, when I see the morale of the soldiers, selfless personnel, revolution guards and all the other combatants, I realize that their morale is either the same as it was 2 years ago, after 2 years of hardships and difficulties, or is even better than 2 years ago. In my trip to the west of the country to visit these dear brothers I could see this point firsthand.

The nation, the imam and the responsible institutions have always made it quite clear that, following the victory of the Islamic revolution, its enemies throughout the world have always intended to annihilate and destroy this revolution of ours. We have never feared the enemy's attempts. We resisted when we were weak, when we were short of men. Today, thank God, our situation has greatly improved, both in terms of men and equipment; our forces have managed to maintain and repair our equipment. We have managed to make use of the same old weapons, the same technically faulty weapons. We worked on them, improved them and took them to the battlefields. Consequently, we mended our own old clothes, rather than borrowing new ones. [Persian proverb]

The region's governments and powers have proved that they are solely concerned with ruling a few more days and nothing else. They do not spare any thoughts for the Palestinians. Whatever they have said so far about the Palestinians has been aimed at misleading their own peoples. These governments are not prepared to confront America for the sake of the Palestinian nation. This was stated in the Fes summit, where the leaders — the American lackeys — as well as this treacherous Moroccan Hassan stated that we have to adopt a policy that will not give rise to any complaints by America.

The proposals on Palestine were all aimed at safeguarding America's interests, not the interests of the Palestinian nation. The fact is that a just and rational proposal concerning the issues of the region and Palestine does not require such lengthy debates. All it needs is one single clause, which would be acceptable by and compatible with the region's issues: Return Palestine to its owners.

Islamic nations throughout the Islamic world — namely, 1 billion human beings — must state their case today. They must condemn the occupation by Zionists; they must condemn the occupation and interference by criminal America and European powers in the Middle East. The Middle East is an Islamic region; it must be run by Muslims themselves. No one else has the right to interfere in it.

As a member of this nation, as [word indistinct] and spokesman for this nation, I declare that the Islamic Republic of Iran and the combative Iranian nation will not cease their struggle against American oppression and international Zionism. We are not going to hide our feelings; we openly declare that ours is the same slogan as stated by our imam. The imam said: Israel must be destroyed. This is our slogan.

Cod grant us more resilience, bless our nation, awaken Muslim nations and remove the evil of dependent oppressors from them.

OFFICIALS COMMENT ON ROLE OF IRANIAN PRESS

GF281158 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 15 Sep 82 p 3

[Excerpts] Education Minister 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh, Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi and Dr Kamal Gharazi, the official in charge of war publicity and IRNA, discussed their views about the press in interviews with our correspondents.

Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh told our reporter: I have read a statement in the press, attributed to the imam, which is very strange. He said that if a newspaper has big headlines just to attract the buyer and in relation to this headline there are either no important facts written or there are no explanations, then this work is unethical and the money collected that day is illegal. We note that the Western press is like this. The politics of Western newspapers is based upon greed, so its work is done this way. But the press under Islamic law has a special character. The job of the press should be lawful and we know that if it is not lawful it is illegal.

By writing one sentence, the press can make one person or one group become friends or enemies. Since the press has such an important role, its action should be based on justice.

I believe that if all of the press could emerge from one center and responsibly write and distribute the news, then maybe the presence of that center would become a focus for unity for all the press. Of course, I do not believe the press should be all one unit. The press is the representative of the wants and thoughts of its readers and should have its own voice.

The minister of education continued: I want to point out that in the holy Koran the facts and the events are descriptive and after the Koran, Nahjolbalaqeh is a descriptive book of the events and times of Imam 'Ali. We can see that in these books instead of just writing the facts of events, they have been explained; this is a big role in society. The job of the press should be to relate the facts of news and events in a way that enables the reader to understand events. The work of the press is not to make the reader understand all of the facts. The work of the press is to introduce the facts and then let the reader analyze them.

The minister of education pointed to the prophetic work of the press and said: One of the most important jobs of the press is not to attract people to the events and news but to attract the news and events to the people. They should give the facts to the readers in a way that they can swallow and digest them, not letting the facts swallow the readers.

If we investigate, we can sincerely say that the imam has been the only one who has always followed a chain of events. It has been this way since 1969 when the imam's goal was to oust the shah. After choosing this line and making this decision he persevered. When he achieved the first goal in February 1979, he then went for his second goal, having an Islamic Republic Government in Iran and so on. This is the way press should work; it should choose its line and follow through.

At the end of the interview, the minister of education commented on contacts by officials with the press and said: I believe this contact depends on the atmosphere the press makes for that person. If that atmosphere is not a hostile one, then of course the official will talk easily, honestly and fully about a subject. In this honesty the problems and defects will show. If you give the official the right to contact you and correct a mistake he has made, then this kind of illegal action will be stopped.

Engineer Behzad Nabavi told our reporter: I think the press has a very large role. We have seen the atmosphere the press created before and after the revolution.

After the revolution, due to interference by leftists, monarchists and hypocrite agents, a kind of atmosphere was created that caused many problems for the Islamic Republic. Of course, in contrast, the press can play a positive and profitable role to help the government do its work. Education is an important role of the media and is very important to our revolution. However, the percentage of illiterate people in our country is very high and the literate ones do not read newspapers. Radio and television are the key information mediums. Unfortunately, the number of the people that pay attention to the press now is very low and we hope to be able to change this. I believe the press is one of the biggest pillars of the education revolution in the Islamic Republic. The educational change in our country is based on the righteous and legal work of the media.

We remember 2 years ago, before the start of the Cabinet of martyr Raja'i, most of the newspapers, with the exception of JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, were in the hands of counterrevolutionaries. It is the responsibility of newspaper reporters to introduce people to any faults and defects of officials; but, if the official has done something right, then the reporters should inform the people of this too. And if there is a comment on the work of an official, after expressing it, they should give that official an opportunity to respond. We should take care not to criticize a person in the Western style, without mercy. On the other hand, we should not follow the communist or the Eastern style of having only one radio, newspaper and television so that whatever they say is with the review and approval of the central committee of the party.

Criticism should not be made in order to increase the number of newspapers sold; the criticism should be deserved and truth should be considered. One thing the press can do is to invite a knowledgeable person to write about different problems in society and give theories and plans. They should discuss them for society and the government so they can be considered and implemented. Society needs plans and theories and the press can play a very important role in this position and make society think and discuss the problems deeply.

There are times when a newspaper wants to hurt the revolution and make problems for the government. Of course, then its political or ideological goal is unacceptable and the revolution will not accept this. On the other hand, there are times when our press discuss a problem in the right way, but without following any ideology or just having competition or counterrevolutionary goals in mind. They discuss defects in society and government honestly and provide answers to them too. These answers may be very important. When a responsible minister reads about the problems of his work in the newspaper, he should read about the way to solve them too. Anyway, the press does not attract people's attention but we should not lose such an important element so easily. The newspapers should make the minds of people work; it should make them work.

Dr Gharazi talked about truthfulness in the news and said: I want to note a few more points the press should follow. One of them is to reflect the truth in news and events. I hope we will never see the press hiding something everybody knows about. Then people will lose their trust in the press. They will say: These people are hiding the truth from us and are lying to us. Something everybody knows about and can see cannot be denied, but they are describing it differently. This will hurt the trustworthiness of the press.

We should not think that people do not know. People know everything very well; they are the ones who made the revolution. We should serve the people and put the true facts about daily events before them in the newspapers. We should not hide something thinking that people do not understand them well.

We in IRNA tried to change the form of the news coming from the Western media and put it in a new way. We took the facts of that news and put it in an Islamic and revolutionary way and then put it in the press.

In other kinds of newspapers this was not done. Sometimes the exact text of that news, expertly designed to deceive people, was published. Also a person can still feel that there is much attention given to the West. The belief that news coming from the West is therefore true still exists.

The press should remain free and should not become a pawn in the hands of a group or an individual. A newspaper should be a mirror reflecting the problems of society. This is a point that needs attention.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,061

LD281828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,061 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Excerpts] In His exalted name. Yesterday, on the western fronts, the exchange of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued and in the border regions of Dasht-e Zahab it was even more intense than before. The results of the operations on the western fronts and the losses sustained by the Iraqi Ba'thist forces are as follows: One tank, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 truck, several bunkers and foxholes, 2 observation posts, several light and heavy weapons were destroyed and more than 50 of Saddam's mercenaries were either killed or wounded. On these fronts, the activities of the proud combatants of the air force and of the army aviation units continued to be effective and commendable.

On the southern fronts and in the Ramadan Operation zones, exchange of fire continued between the victorious forces of Islam and the Saddamist mercenaries. The faithful heroes of Islam, guarding their defensive positions, inflicted losses on the Saddamist forces. On one of the fronts, the fighters of the gendarmerie killed 11 Iraqi Ba'thist servicemen and destroyed 1 of their boats.

During the past 24 hours the city of Abadan came under sporadic artillery fire from the Saddamist criminals. The fire damaged one hospital and a few houses. Two of our dear Abadan compatriots were wounded.

Air intrusions by the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries were utterly repulsed by our vigilant air defense forces.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

AHVAZ-KHORRAMSHAHR RAILWAY RECONSTRUCTED

LD251430 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Work for the reconstruction of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr railway, utterly destroyed by the Iraqi Zionist and Ba'thist aggressors during the imposed war, 25 km along the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr line was completed and made ready for use after about 106 days of consistent, round-the-clock activities by the selfless reconstruction crusade workers of the railway's ten regions.

Announcing this news in an interview with an IRNA correspondent, the official responsible for coordinating supplies to the staff headquarters of the reconstruction crusade of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr railway line expressed appreciation for the assistance given by Khuzestan's machinery bank and the Islamic committee of the Ahvaz truckdrivers trade union to the railway crusaders in placing at their disposal dumptrucks for the shifting of 200,000 cubic meters of special track ballast. It is noteworthy that the Islamic Republic of Iran's responsible railway officials had previously announced that the reconstruction of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr railway track would be carried out and that the task was completed in 106 days.

'AMERICAN MERCENARIES' DEFEATED NEAR MAHABAD

LD281816 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Sep 82

[Text] The self-sacrificing forces of Islam have mopped up Khalifeh village and (Meyda Pass) on the Mahabad-(Passeh) axis from the filthy existence of the counterrevolutionaries. Our correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mahabad has sent us a report on these operations:

At dawn on 27 September, on the eve of the blessed feast of 'Id al-Adha and on the 5th day of war week, the brave fighters of Islam, composed of self-sacrificing members of the Guards Corps, Muslim tribesmen and the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with complete coordination, conquered Khalifeh village and (Meyda Pass), situated 30 km on [as heard] the Mahabad-(Passeh) axis.

After making their base there, they released one of the most important strategic positions from the grasp of the American mercenaries. In these operations, in which the counter-revolutionaries used all their strength in protecting the pass, more than 30 mercenaries were killed and a large number were wounded. After occupying enemy trenches, the fighters of Islam witnessed the mass flight of the American mercenaries. In the trenches of the assailants -- in addition to the enemy corpses -- large quantities of RPG, G-3 and Kalashnikov weapons, together with ammunition, as well as documents were discovered by the fighters of Islam.

The (Meyda Pass) constituted the most important supply route of the American mercenaries to Piranshah, (Naqadeh), (Passeh) and Sar Dasht and, in fact, could have been regarded as the jugular vein of the counterrevolutionaries.

In these operations two of the fighters of Islam, who fought with great courage from trench to trench against the counterrevolutionaries, were martyred.

IRNA REPORTS ON 'TERRORIST' ACTS IN TEHRAN

LD252110 Tehran IRNA in English 2016 GMT 25 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA -- Six Muslim worshippers were wounded, two of them seriously, when two monafeqin [hypocrite] (MKO) [Mojahedin-e Khalq] terrorists fired their automatic weapons at a van carrying the group at the Azari crossing in downtown Tehran yesterday.

The attack was launched at 14:20 hours yesterday afternoon as the people were returning home from the weekly Friday prayers ceremony at Tehran University. The terrorists escaped on a motorcycle and are currently being sought.

During this month three bombs exploded at Tehran's busiest downtown areas, martyring more than 20 people and wounding over a hundred people. The police and other security officials blame the Mojahedin-e Khalq terrorist organisation (MKO) and monarchist groups for the bomb explosions, which are being supplied with Iraqi explosives and materials.

Many of the arrested members of the MKO and other terrorist organisations, including their high-ranking members, have consented to appear on television to speak about such blind inhuman activities. Only yesterday some 24 members of major terrorist organisations and other counterrevolutionary groups appeared on Iranian television condemning these terrorist acts, which they said were in line with the objectives of the U.S.'s aims of creating disturbances in the country.

OPPOSITION GROUP MEMBERS APPEAR ON TV TALK SHOW

LD250140 Tehran IRNA in English 1941 GMT 24 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 24, IRNA -- Twenty-four high ranking members of various counter-revolutionary groups, including professors, university students and reporters, took part in an unprecedented televised talk show.

They were members of the Central Committees of the Mojahedin-e Khalq terrorist organisation (MKO) and its Marxist-Leninist faction "Peykar", also the hardline Marxist-Leninist "Feda'iyān-e Khalq" organisation, high ranking members of the National Front party and prominent advisers of the fugitive ex-President Bani-Sadr.

One of the participants, Sa'id Rohani, was a member of the MKO before the break-up of the group into a "religious", and Marxist faction in 1974. He also co-founded a group known as the Marxist-Leninist faction of the MKO.

In 1971, Rohani hijacked a plane flying from Dubai to Tehran along with a number of other MKO members and in 1972 had been commissioned by the MKO to obtain the blessings of Imam Khomeyni, who was at the time in exile in An-Najaf, Iraq. The latter effort failed and during many briefing sessions concerning the group's ideology and activities in Iran, Imam Khomeyni stressed that the group's beliefs were based on Marxism and not Islam.

One other participant in tonight's programme was Sayfollah Kazemiyan, who had survived the bloody feuds which had been caused by the 1974 breakup. He was later appointed chief of supply operations of the MKO's "religious" faction.

Today's programme, which was the first part of the round-table talks which was coordinated by another member of "Peykar", Qasem Abedini, included comments from two Executive Committee members of the MKO.

They said that up to this period, they had "blindly" followed the deviated policies of the MKO and they had not had the time to analyse them because of pressures from within the group.

They also stated that the policies of the MKO were in line with the U.S. in all political, economic and cultural aspects and added that MKO's desire for creating chaos in Iran was in fact an effort to actualise the aims of the U.S.

In future episodes of this round-table discussion five advisers of ex-President Bani-Sadr and also the members of the National Front will speak about the stands taken by the National Front and the ousted President Bani-Sadr.

CLANDESTINE REPORTS RIFT IN RELATIONS WITH SYRIA

GF270904 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Sep 82

[Text] Informed political sources in Tehran have reported that relations between the Tehran and Damascus regimes have become cool once again. According to these sources, the main reason for this change is a congratulatory telegram that was sent by Hafiz al-Asad, the leader of Syria, to Amin al-Jumayyil, the newly elected president of Lebanon. The Tehran regime has been quoted as being opposed to the election of Al-Jumayyil as the president of Lebanon, and covers itself by saying that it supports the Muslims of Lebanon.

Iran has begun to attack and criticize the leaders of different countries, especially Hafiz al-Asad, the leader of the regime of Syria. According to various reports, all Lebanese Muslims have displayed happiness about the election of Amin al-Jumayyil as president, especially since he is well-known for being a moderate. For example, Nabih Barri, the military leader of the Amal organization [as heard], on 23 September sent a congratulatory cable to Amin al-Jumayyil, the new Lebanese president.

Informed Tehran sources are saying that, as expected, the criticisms of leading mullahs about the one roof and fair weather politics of Hafiz al-Asad are contradictory. While the newspapers of the [word indistinct] secular mullahs are openly criticizing the (?Syrian leader), the leaders of the [word indistinct] gang led by Mullah Hashemi-Rafsanjani praise him and call Hafiz al-Asad (?the friend and supporter of the regime). Political sources cite Hashemi-Rafsanjani's sermon during the Friday political show in which he praised the Syrian leader and, after attacking Saddam Husayn, said Al-Asad is a good man and is our supporter and Saddam is a bad one and is our enemy.

According to these sources, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, by saying this, wants to minimize the darkening of the relations between Tehran and Damascus and stop the further isolation of the regime. Meanwhile, the distancing of Hafiz al-Asad from the regime of the mullahs, which started with his meeting and talks with Saddam Husayn and continued with his display of friendship toward the new president of Lebanon, has had an effect on the leading council of the regime.

Sending Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, the information minister of the Syrian regime, to Tehran to deceive the mullahs was not useful. Furthermore, after the reconciliation between Hafiz al-Asad and Saddam Husayn, the Syrian regime has decreased its pressure on the Syrian-Iraqi border and has erected new facilities on its border with Iraq as a preliminary measure for normalizing relations with Iraq.

ASH-SHAHID: BAHRAINI REGIME TERRORIZING MASSES

GF240646 Tehran ASH-SHAHID in Arabic 25 Aug 82 pp 18, 19

[Unattributed article: "In Bahrain, Is It the Security of the Citizen or the Security of the Regime?"]

[Text] The Al Khalifah rulers in Bahrain continue to oppress and terrorize the faithful Bahraini masses. The prisons continue to receive more dedicated young people. These people end up in these prisons because of barbaric and savage practices. Houses are still subject to searches and destruction by the gangs of the Al Khalifah ruling regime, although this agent regime boastfully announces that it cares about the security of the citizens or the homeland, while at the same time Al Khalifah is violating security and rushing the dignity of the homeland and citizens. The oppression, terrorism and continuous arrests that the Muslim people in Bahrain are being subjected to, are a continuation of the policy of the "big stick" of U.S. leaders, foremost of which is Reagan, who adopted the slogan of fighting "terrorism" in order to satisfy the despotic rulers and the reactionary regimes which face overwhelming popular resistance and revolution.

A short period has passed following the latest incidents -- the drama of the "plot" fabricated by the Al Khalifah rulers, which was accompanied by a wave of oppression and terrorism in addition to trying the faithful and dedicated young people, passing unjust sentences against them. The Al Khalifah authorities have launched a new large-scale arrest campaign against the unjustly treated Muslim people and launched horrible torture operations against prisoners. Well-informed sources in Bahrain indicate that the mercenaries of the agent Al Khalifah regime have recently undertaken nighttime house searches, arresting the inhabitants, including women and children. This policy is aimed at inflicting greater disgrace and humiliation on the Muslims. Moreover, the procession which took place on "Jerusalem Day" -- which the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, called for -- was subjected to savage suppression, besides which those who participated in this procession were sent to the cells of the ruling family.

Reports from the horrible Al Khalifah prisons indicate that the gangs of the regime practice the ugliest forms of torture against the dedicated young people being detained. So, in contradiction of international laws, the whips of the regime's torturers continue to lash the backs of the faithful mujahidin against whom the "fallacious" court issued its unjust sentences, which can be seen in the life-imprisonment sentences for 3 of them in addition to other sentences that range between 7 and 15 years of imprisonment for the others. This reflects the extent of the grudge which the Bahraini rulers have toward the rebellious Muslim masses and the challenge which the dedicated heroes show in the prisons of Al Khalifah. There is no [acceptable] explanation for the continuation of criminal acts perpetrated by the Al Khalifah rulers through the practice of torture against the detainees whose trial was, apparently, carried out in the regime's court and followed with the issuing of the unjust sentences. The only explanation for this is that the regime carries out the orders of its American overlords to liquidate the Muslim opposition which constitutes a serious threat to its throne and to the future of this and other such unjust regimes. Therefore, the authorities in Bahrain released the communist elements and this coincided with the step undertaken by the agent Saddam Husayn releasing communists, allying himself with them and giving some of them key posts in the government, at a time when Muslims and the revolutionary and the Islamic movement are subject to Israeli oppression and savage detention.

This step was undertaken by the Al Khalifah regime after ascertaining that Islam is more dangerous than communism, that Islam accepts neither bargaining nor truce vis-a-vis the conspiracy of the agent regime, and that the cunning game played by the left can be believed [as published] while the pious mujahidin -- the revolutionary Islamic principles in which they believe -- are yielding in their stances. Certainly this can be seen in the pardon resolutions that were promulgated in most of the Arab Islamic countries beginning with Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and ending in the Gulf. These resolutions were merely an action the United States has directed its agents to implement in order to confront the revolutionary Islamic movements, aimed at attacking and liquidating them. It seems that those who promulgated these resolutions are trying to kill two birds with one stone, but the wind does not blow as the ships wish! On the other hand, the campaign of arrest, oppression and liquidation in Bahrain coincides with the new conspiracy being perpetrated in Lebanon against the Lebanese and the Palestinians. It also coincides with the plot for preparing the ground for discussion of the Fahd plan at the Fes summit.

The tour undertaken by Moroccan Foreign Minister Boucetta to the Gulf countries has paved the way for this treacherous plan. It is aimed at crushing the Muslim Islamic opposition and striking at the rebellious masses. Therefore, the wave of terrorism and oppression taking place in Bahrain is part of the U.S. general and comprehensive plan aimed at striking at the revolutionary Islamic movement in the Gulf, in Bahrain and the [Arabian] Peninsula in particular, in accordance with U.S. Middle East strategy.

As we understand the U.S.-Al Khalifah conspiracy being implemented in Bahrain, its terrorist methods are aimed at [achieving] the following:

1. Liquidating the Islamic revolutionary movement and striking at the steadfast faithful masses.
2. To cover the ugly crimes it commits against the dedicated faithful, the regime gives some deceptive freedom to the communists -- and not to the Muslims -- in order to achieve its malicious goals designed to implement this conspiracy through this mean step which gives the appearance that the regime is democratic.
3. It is a means of paving the way for the implementation of U.S.-Fahd plan, following the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the visit of the Moroccan foreign minister to the Gulf countries.

But, as we said earlier, the wind does not blow as the ships wish. Events have developed in the area in such a way that the people's Islamic consciousness has improved and the equations have changed so that the people will not let imperialism and its agents frivolously affect their fate and their holy places. A day will come in which the diabolical ruling families in Bahrain, the Peninsula, Kuwait and...will be toppled so that the sun will shine again on this area. [sentence as published]

NVOI APPLAUDS RECENT AGREEMENT WITH INDIA

GF261400 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 25 September carried a commentary entitled "We Cannot Put All the Third World Countries at the Same Pole." It said: One of the goals of our glorious revolution is to rid itself of economic, military and political dependence. One of the major steps toward this taken by the government is to establish close economic relations with India. Recent agreements signed in Tehran between India and Iran are an example of the timely and correct action of the Islamic leadership.

India, through its cooperation with the Soviet Union, has been able to show considerable growth in its industries and its overall economy. Some industries have reached the levels of the developed countries. Letters of agreement signed between the Islamic Republic and India open an interesting future of cooperation between the two countries.

We hope that the government will take serious steps to expand ties with India and other truly independent countries that have not linked themselves with military pacts with imperialism. This is important because some of the officials who are responsible for our economy, industry and technology stress reliance on the Third World countries. This means that as far as these gentlemen are concerned if a country is a Third World country and is also Islamic then we can blindly begin extensive commercial and economic ties with it. This is what some would base our actions on.

For example, Mr Tavakkoli, the minister of labor and social affairs, said that Iran would not purchase anything from the United States and is trying to replace economic ties with oppressive countries with Third World ones. Mr Tavakkoli and some of his colleagues have tried to place the socialist countries at the same pole as the imperialist world, led by the United States. Third World countries are not homogenous in terms of their growth and dependence. Of the three countries India, Turkey and Pakistan, which our country has established extensive ties with, only India is truly independent since it has no military ties and has not allowed any other country to establish a military base on its soil.

The same does not apply to either Turkey or Pakistan. We cannot say that our statesmen cannot see such realities. They see them very well. However, they cannot rid themselves from secularism, prejudice and the control of the pseudoclergy, liberalism and the imperialist mass media.